

ARROW ROCK IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE (ARIC)  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GRANT 2021

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Release date: January 7, 2021 Application deadline: March 31, 2021

**BACKGROUND** In 2017, Saline County voters approved a one-half cent sales tax to support economic development. A portion of these revenues are to be allocated to communities within Saline County for economic development.

The Arrow Rock Board of Trustees established the Arrow Rock Improvement Committee (ARIC) to solicit and review proposals for projects to be funded in whole or part with these funds. Recommendations by ARIC are subject to review by both the Arrow Rock Board of Trustees and by the Saline County Sales Tax Advisory Board.

**PURPOSE** Completed projects will promote economic development and improve the economic vitality of Arrow Rock. Funding will be awarded to projects that develop and support a variety of initiatives, including:

- programs
- facilities
- infrastructure
- historic and cultural enhancement

**APPROACHES AND OUTCOMES** The committee welcomes proposals from both for-profit and not-for-profit entities. Proposals may include a variety of approaches and methodologies. The committee may recommend one-time awards or multi-year grants to the Arrow Rock Village Board. Proposals that include matching funds (other grants, contributions, cash or in-kind contributions, tangible resources) will be given special consideration. Those that include collaboration with other organizations will require letters of support and affirmation by those organizations.

**TOTAL AWARDS** Funds available for 2019 grant cycle totaled \$98,000. In 2020, funds available totaled \$153,000. There can be no assurance that any funding will be available to the individual communities in years ahead, although some funds are expected to be available through 2037, when the ballot approved tax expires.

**ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA** Preference will be given to applicant organizations that have an existing relationship with Arrow Rock. They may include educational institutions, private entities, not-for-profit and for-profit organizations.

**OUR EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION STATEMENT** Arrow Rock is committed to providing everyone a fair and just opportunity to participate in our community in this grant award program.

**ACTIONABILITY** proposals can be translated into practice through programs, initiatives and projects that demonstrably improve the economic vitality and well-being of our residents.

OVER

## **SELECTION CRITERIA**

Proposals will be evaluated on the following criteria:

**OVERALL** Arrow Rock has as a key metric the number of annual visitors. Our local economy is built almost entirely on tourism, so all proposed projects will be viewed in the context of sustained or increased visitorship.

**ECONOMIC IMPACT** how does the project support and extend the reach of current programs and initiatives? How will the project increase the number of visitors that Arrow Rock hosts?

**FEASIBILITY** are the project sponsors adequately organized and staffed to ensure that the project is successfully completed? Are the budget and timeline predictable and realistic?

**SUSTAINABILITY** what are the residual benefits to Arrow Rock beyond the immediate grant period? Are ongoing costs associated with the project accounted for and funded?

## **KEY DATES, DEADLINES & DELIVERY**

**SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS – WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31, 2021 (4:00 PM CT)  
ANNOUNCEMENT OF AWARDS – TBD, 2021**

**SUBMISSIONS MUST BE ONLINE – ARROW ROCK.ORG  
UNLESS SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS ARE ARRANGED**

**ARIC WILL NOT PROVIDE INDIVIDUAL CRITIQUES OF PROPOSALS SUBMITTED**

**INQUIRIES ABOUT FUNDING DECISIONS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO THE  
ARROW ROCK TOWN BOARD**

**PLEASE DIRECT ALL INQUIRIES TO:**

**Karen Berry, ARIC Chair  
Karenannberry54@gmail.com**

Approved by ARIC 1/6/2021